

Commissioner of Patents
Serial No. 10/725,213
Amendment Date December 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated July 12, 2005
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REMARKS

I. Status of the Application.

Claims 1-7, 10-15, 17-21, and 24-39 of the Application were pending as of the date of the Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1-7, 10-15, 17-21, and 24-32. In this response, Applicants cancel rejected claims 33-39 without prejudice and expressly reserve the right to file a continuation patent application in order to further prosecute and overcome the rejections of these claims. Applicants also submit herewith formal drawings to place the Application in a better condition for allowance and enclose an information disclosure statement ("IDS") listing all the references cited in the parent application to ensure that the references are printed on the resulting patent for this Application.

II. The Rejections Of Claims 33-39 Should Be Withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that all the rejections against claims 33-39 are now moot and should be withdrawn in view of the cancellation of these claims.

III. The New Drawings Should Be Accepted.

Enclosed are "Replacement Sheets" for Figures 1-17 of the Application. The enclosed Replacement Sheets remove informalities in the originally-filed drawings and put the Application in a more suitable form for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the Replacement Sheets are supported by the original specifications and do not add new matter to the Application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the informal drawings filed on December 1, 2003 be replaced with the enclosed formal drawings.

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IV. Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants enclose an IDS that lists all of the references disclosed in the parent application. Applicants respectfully submit that the IDS does not disclose any new references that have yet to be considered by the Examiner and is merely being submitted to ensure that all the references are listed on the issuing patent. As the Manual of Patent Examination and Procedures states "[t]he examiner will consider information which has been considered by the Office in a parent application when examining . . . a continuation-in-part application filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) . . . (and) . . . [a] listing of the information need not be resubmitted . . . unless the applicant desires the information to be printed on the patent." MPEP 609.02(A)(2). Thus, to ensure that all the disclosed information from the parent application is printed on the issued patent, Applicants respectfully submit an IDS that meets all the formatting requirements of 37 1.98(a)(1) and includes the descriptions and pictures of lamp sockets that were disclosed in the parent application (Exhibits A-G). Applicants do not believe any fee needs to accompany this IDS because the listed information was part of the parent application and was already considered by the Examiner as part of normal patent examination procedures. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request acceptance of the enclosed IDS for purposes of printing the information on the resulting patent.

V. Petition For Extension Of Time.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time of one (1) month, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), thereby extending the deadline for response to Monday, November 14, 2005. Applicants request that payment of the \$1,020.00 extension fee be withdrawn from deposit account number 09-0007. When doing so, please reference the above-listed docket number.

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CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have made a patentable contribution to the art and that this response places the Application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this Application is therefore respectfully submitted. In the event Applicants have inadvertently overlooked the need for payment of an additional fee, Applicants conditionally petition therefore and authorize any deficiency to be charged to deposit account 09-0007. When doing so, please reference the above-listed docket number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 9, 2005

ADF
Enclosure: USPTO Transmittal Form
Information Disclosure Statement
Replacement Sheets for Figures 1-17
Return Postcard

EXHIBIT A

Mercury Cougar Tail Lamp Socket

The two figures attached show pictures of the Mercury Cougar tail lamp socket that is manufactured by Cemm Thomé. Figure 1 shows a picture of the lamp socket's bulb accepting portion and Figure 2 shows a picture of a cross section of the bulb socket. The cross section of Figure 2 was created by cutting the bulb socket in half. As shown in Figure 2, this bulb socket is potted with a potting material 10 and holds wires 13 in wire retention slots 12. Figure 1 shows that this bulb socket utilizes two terminals 14 and 15. As shown in Figure 2, the terminal 15 is held in place by a top portion 16 of the lamp socket floor and a separate cover piece 17 that is independent of the terminal.

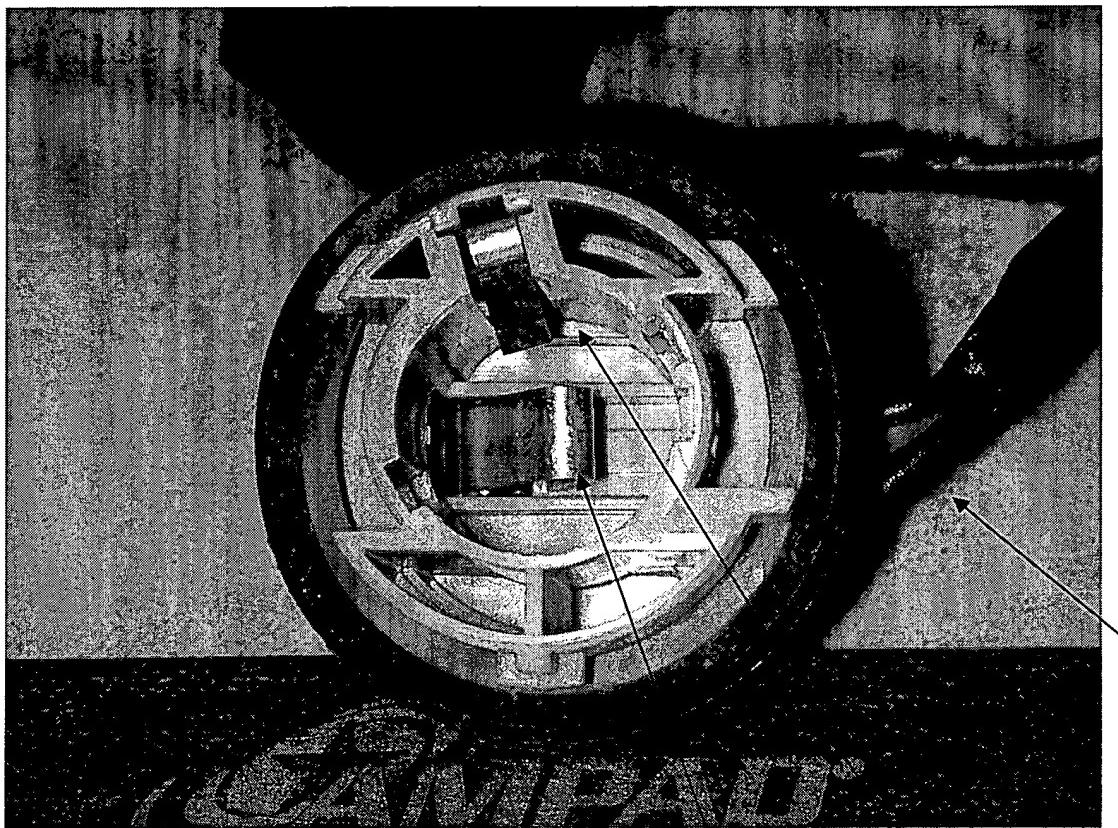


FIG. 1

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FIG. 2

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EXHIBIT B

Zannx Lamp Socket

The Zannx lamp socket is manufactured for Ford. Figure 1 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of the bulb socket and Figure 2 shows a picture of the side view of the Zannx lamp socket. As shown in Figure 2, the lamp socket is a right angle lamp socket having alignment features. Referring to Figure 1, the Zannx lamp socket has retention arms 20, side rail alignment features 22 and a centrally located rib 24 (a pen cap is used to spread the retention arms apart so one of the ribs 24 can be seen) located below each of the retention arms.

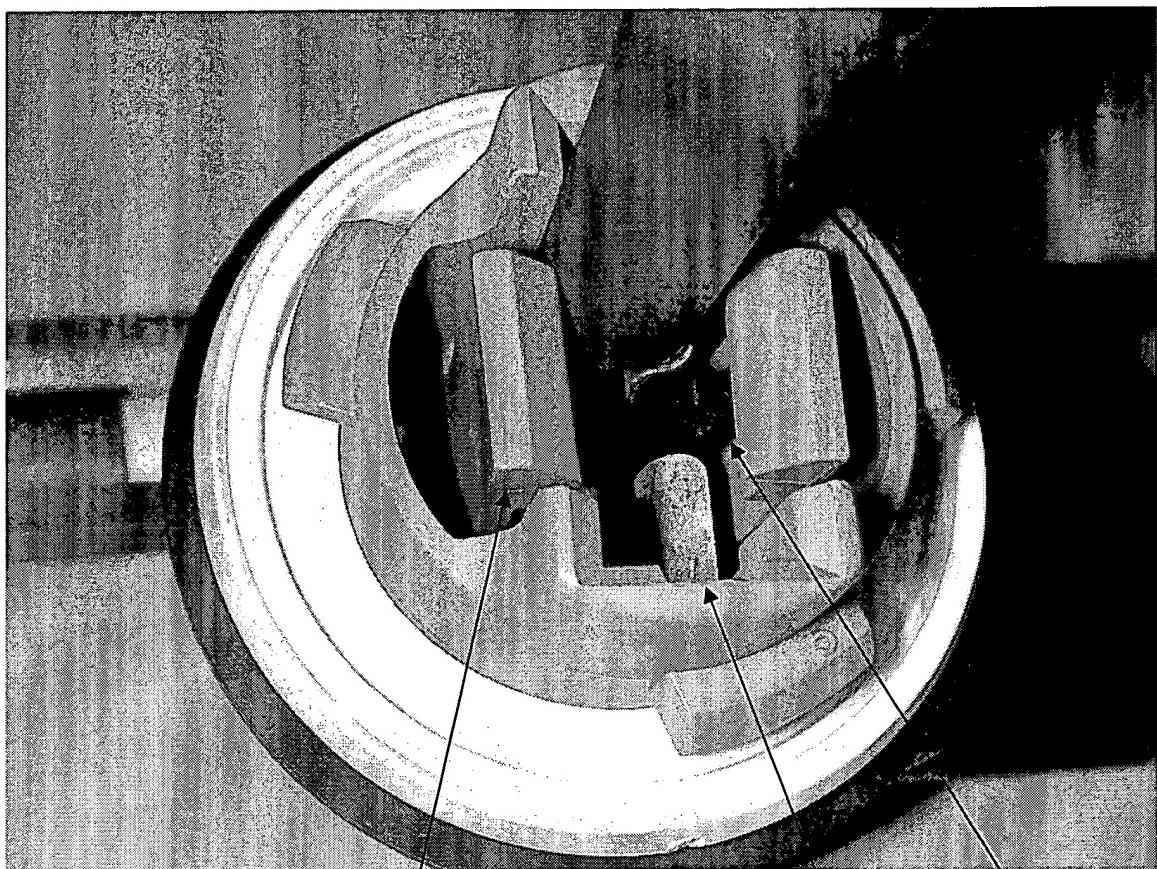


FIG. 1

20

22

24

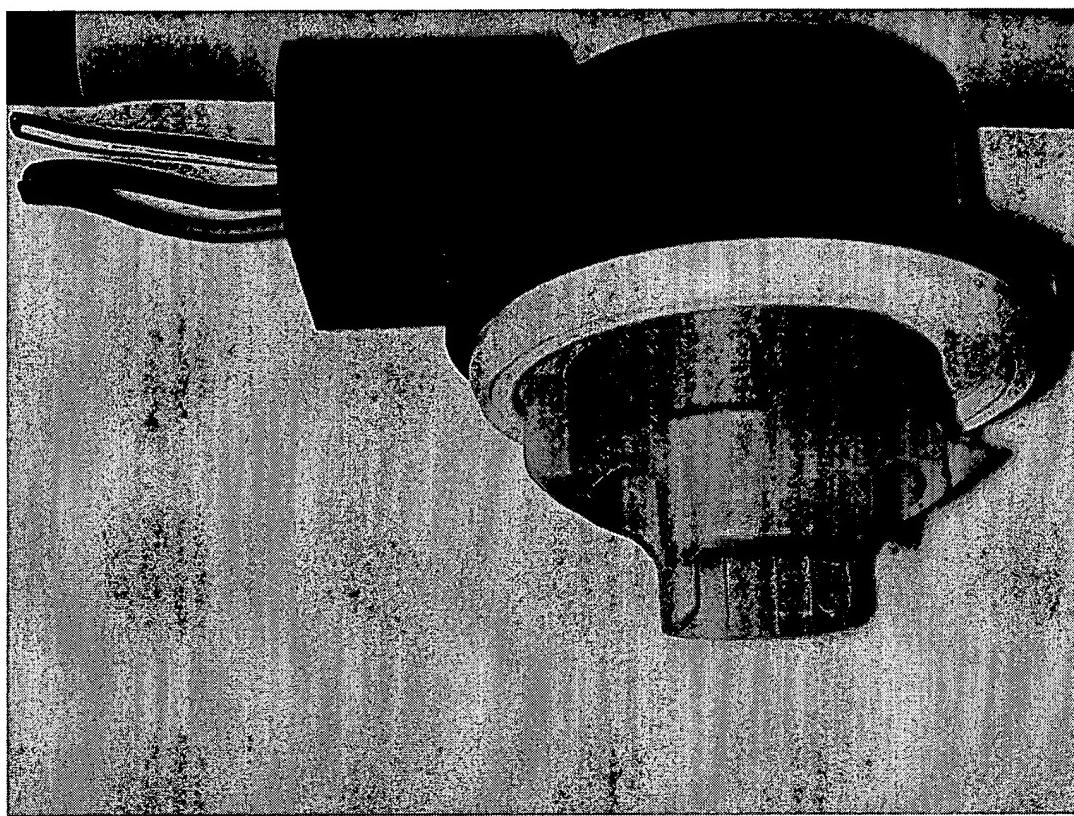


FIG. 2

EXHIBIT C

Packard Right Angle Lamp Sockets

Figure 1 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of a right angle lamp socket manufactured by Packard. As shown in Figure 1, the Packard lamp socket has alignment features. Figure 2 shows a side view picture of the Packard lamp socket and shows that it is a right angle lamp socket.

Packard Axial Lamp Sockets

Figure 3 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of an axial lamp socket manufactured by Packard. Figure 4 shows a side view of this socket. As shown in Figure 4, the lamp socket is an axial bulb socket. Figure 5 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of another version of the Packard axial bulb socket.

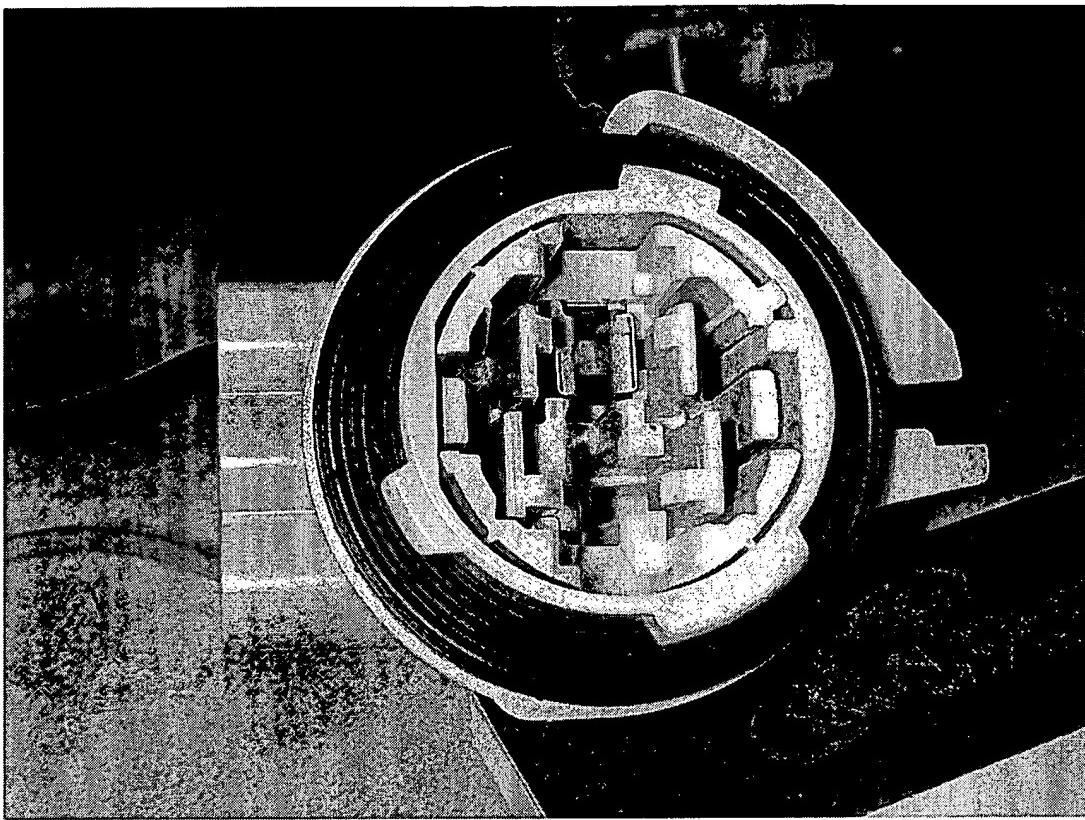


FIG. 1

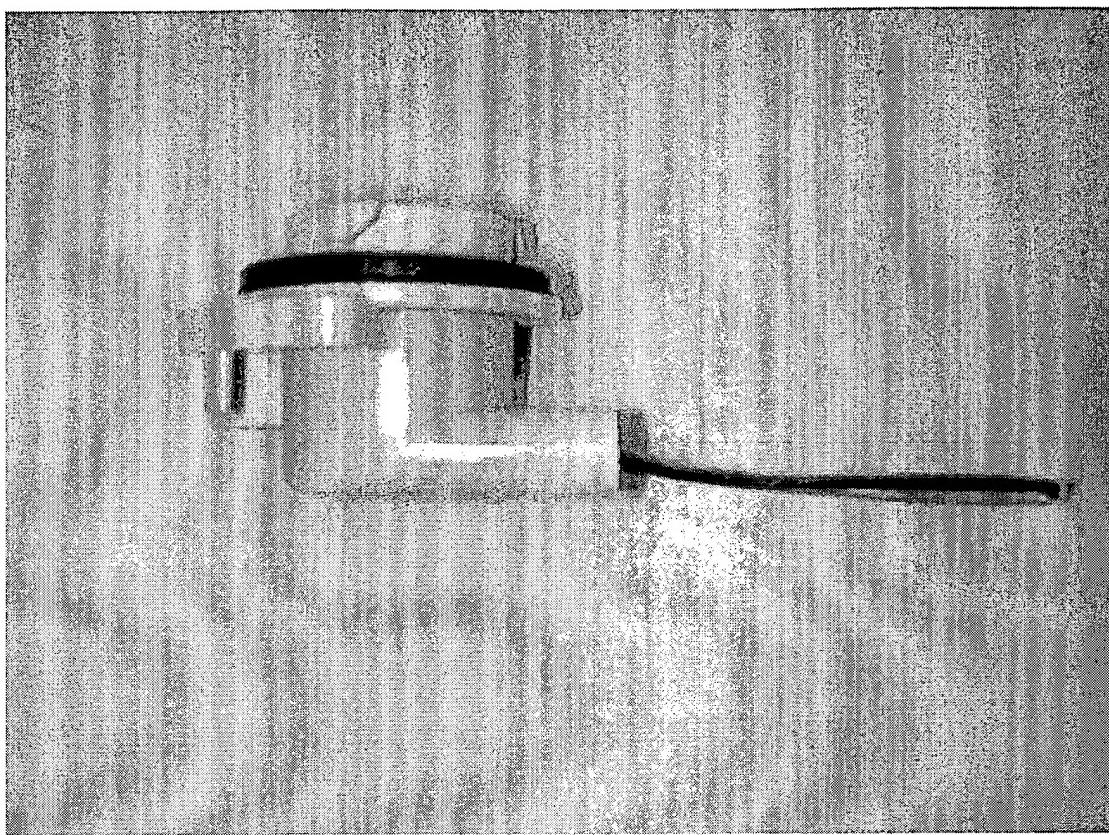


FIG. 2

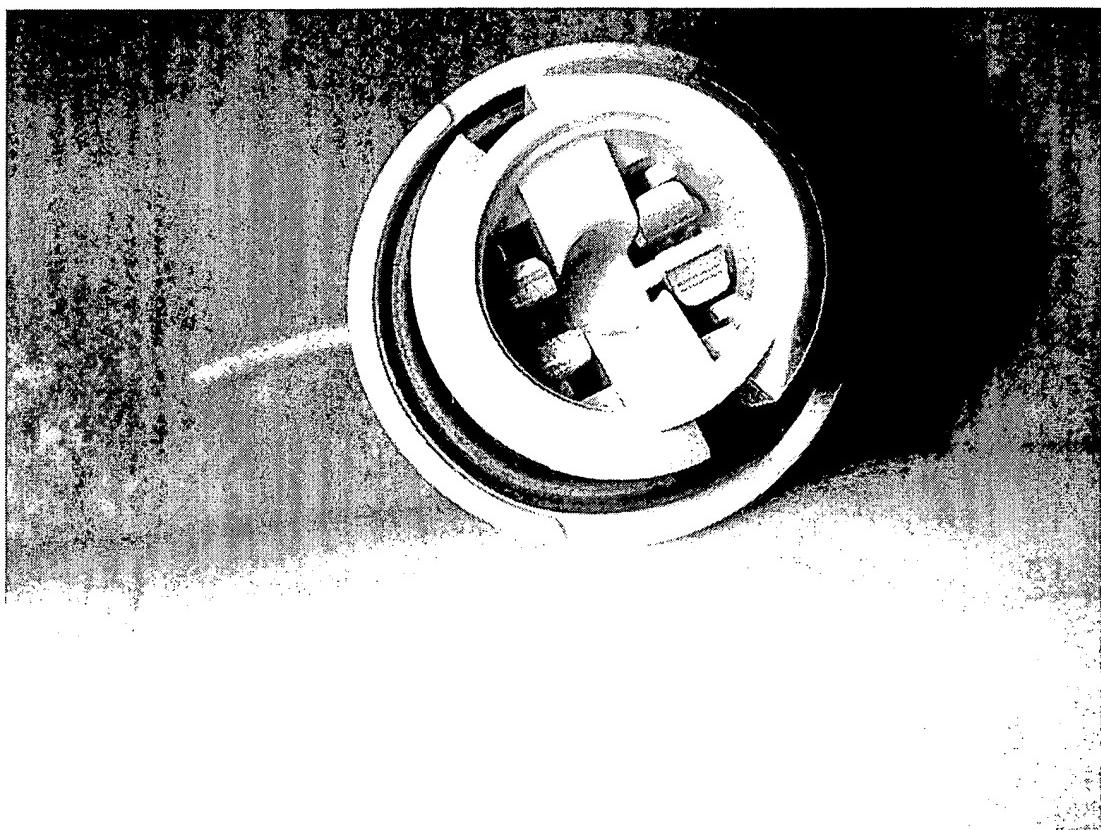


FIG. 3

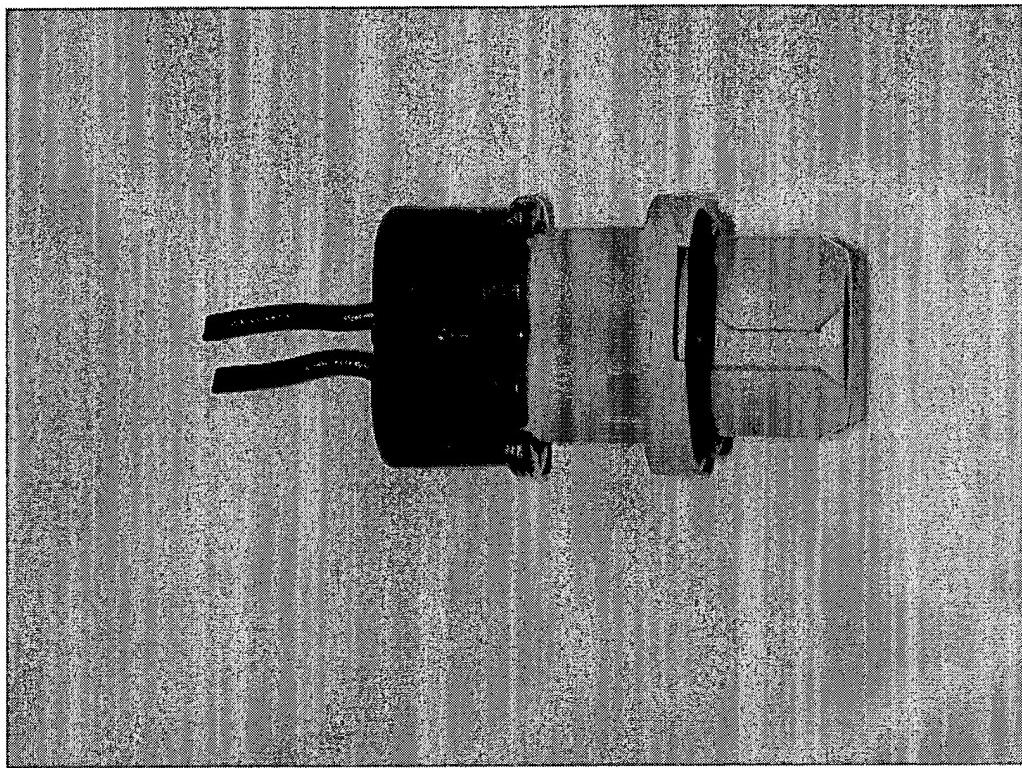


FIG. 4

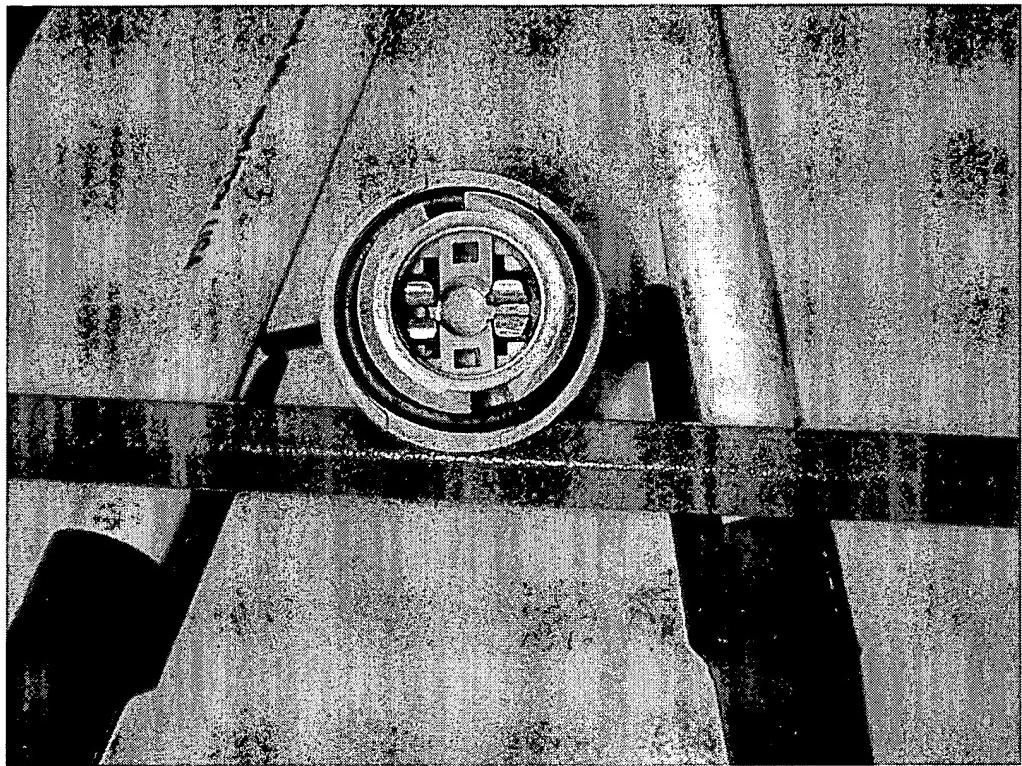


FIG. 5

EXHIBIT D

Toyota Right Angle Lamp Sockets

Figure 1 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of an unsealed right angle Toyota lamp socket. Figure 2 shows a side view picture of the unsealed lamp socket of Figure 1 and shows that it is a right angle lamp socket. Figure 3 shows a picture of the bottom of the first lamp socket and shows the location of the lead ends 30 of the terminals. Similarly, Figure 4 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of a sealed right angle Toyota lamp socket. As shown in Figure 4, the second Toyota lamp socket has bulb socket alignment features. Figure 5 shows a picture of the side view of the sealed right angle Toyota lamp socket and shows that the sealed Toyota lamp socket is a right angle lamp socket. Figure 6 shows a bottom view of this lamp socket and shows that the socket is molded around the lead ends 30 of the terminals. Figure 7 shows an isolated view of the terminals used in both of these lamp sockets.

Toyota Axial Lamp Sockets

Figure 8 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of the Toyota axial lamp socket. Figure 9 shows a side view picture of the Toyota lamp socket and shows that the lamp socket is an axial lamp socket.

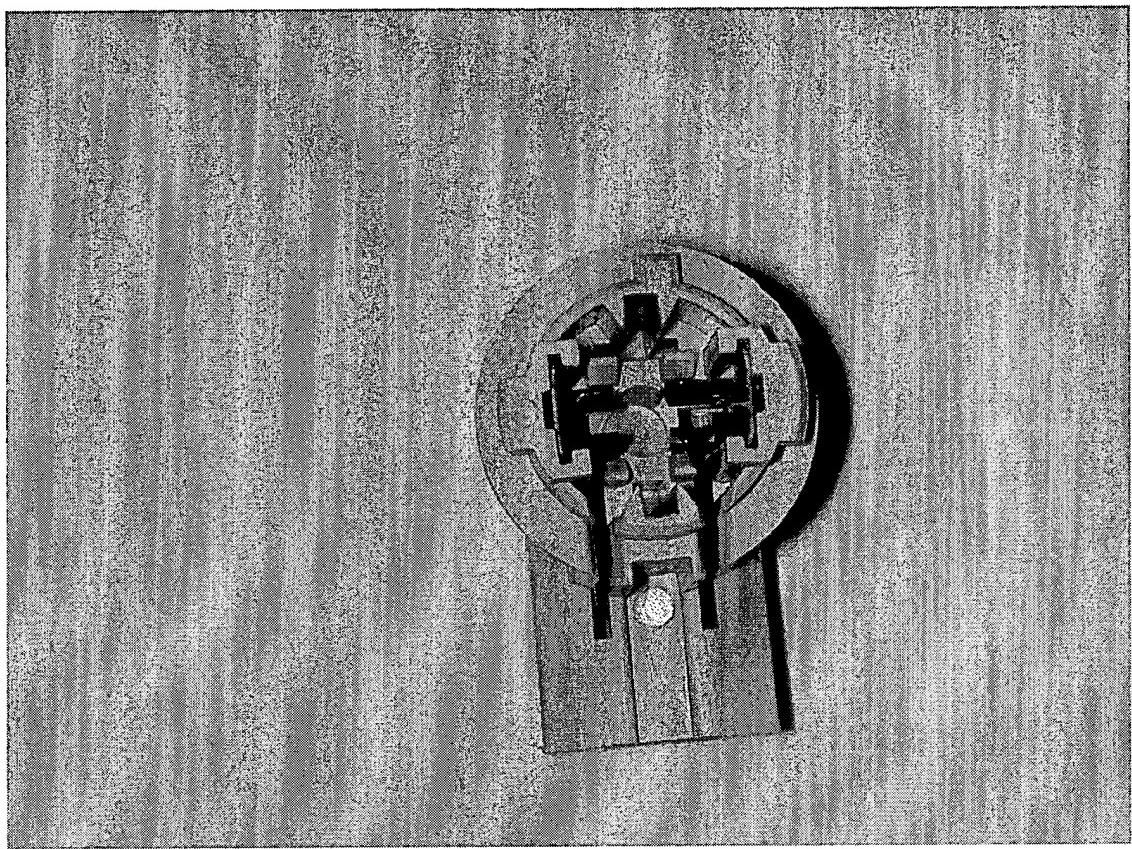


FIG. 1

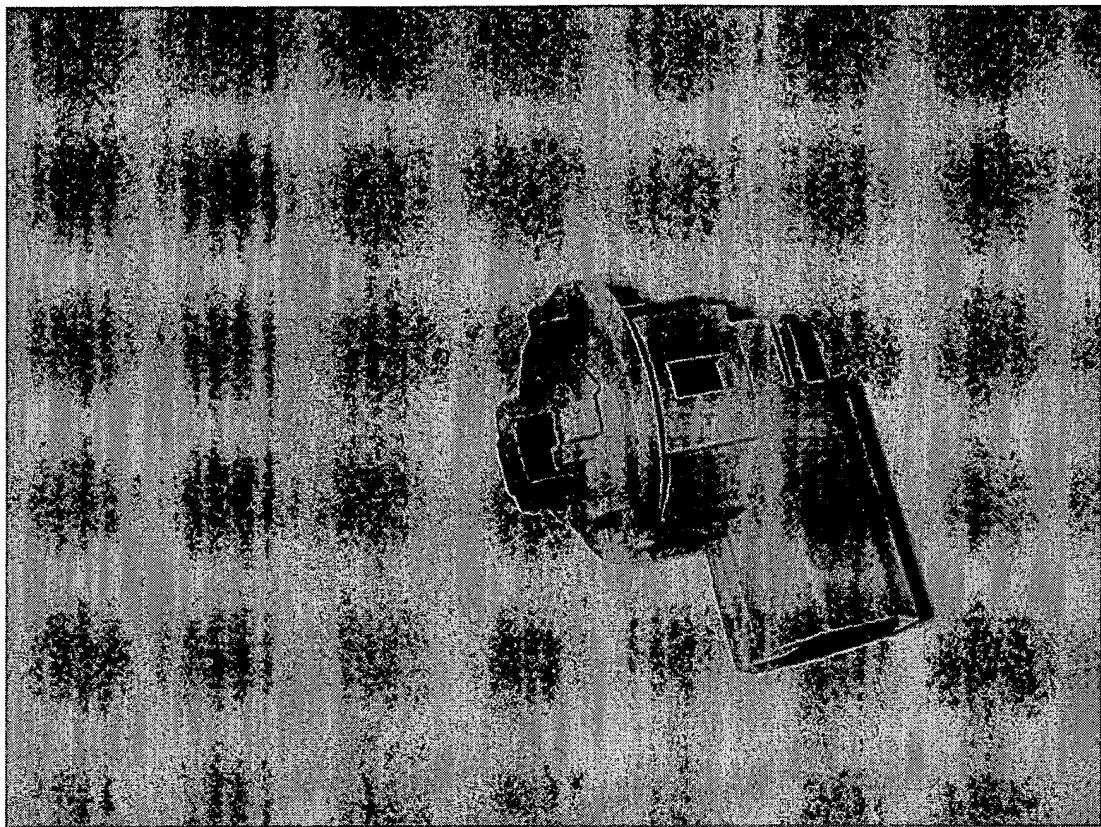


FIG. 2

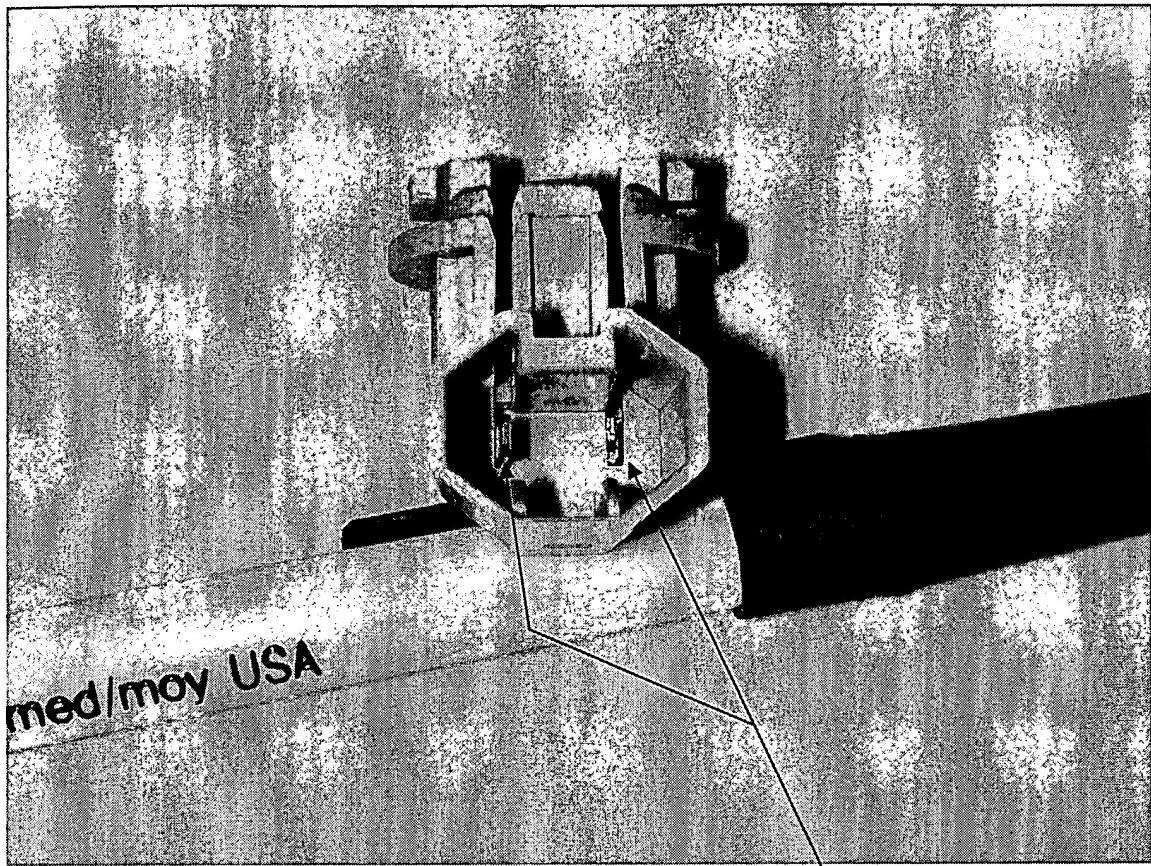


FIG. 3

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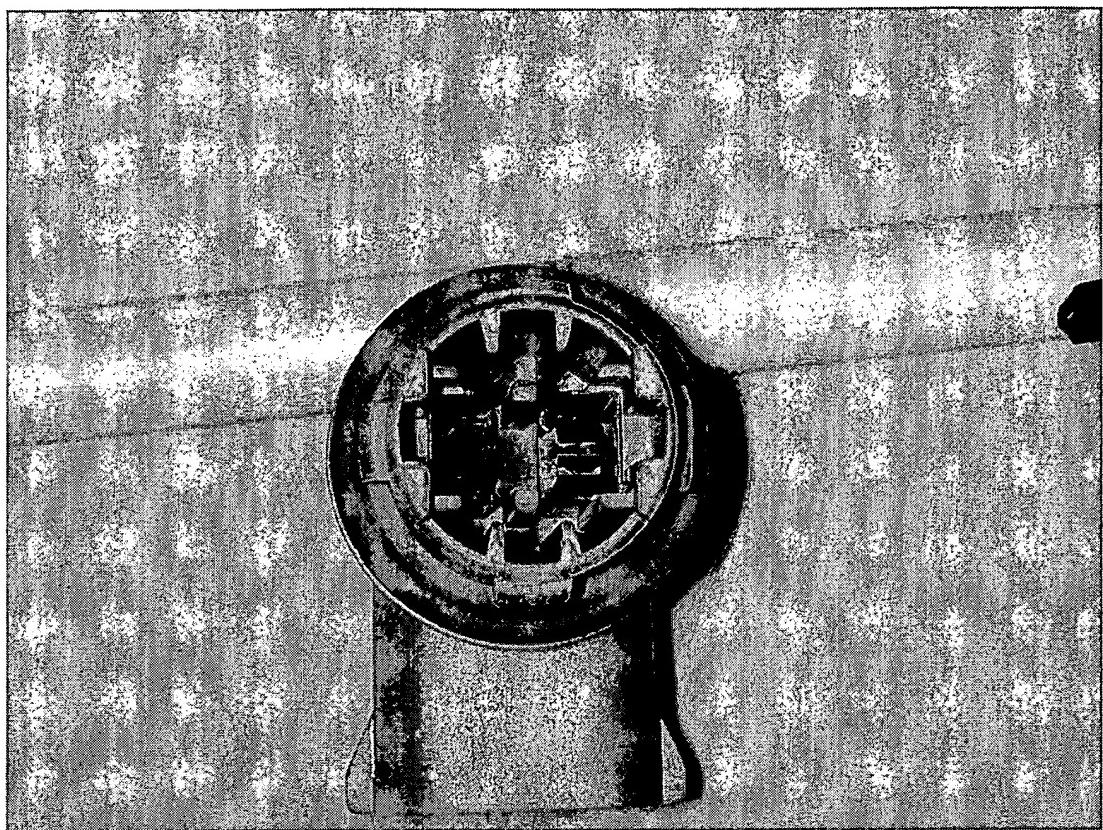


FIG. 4

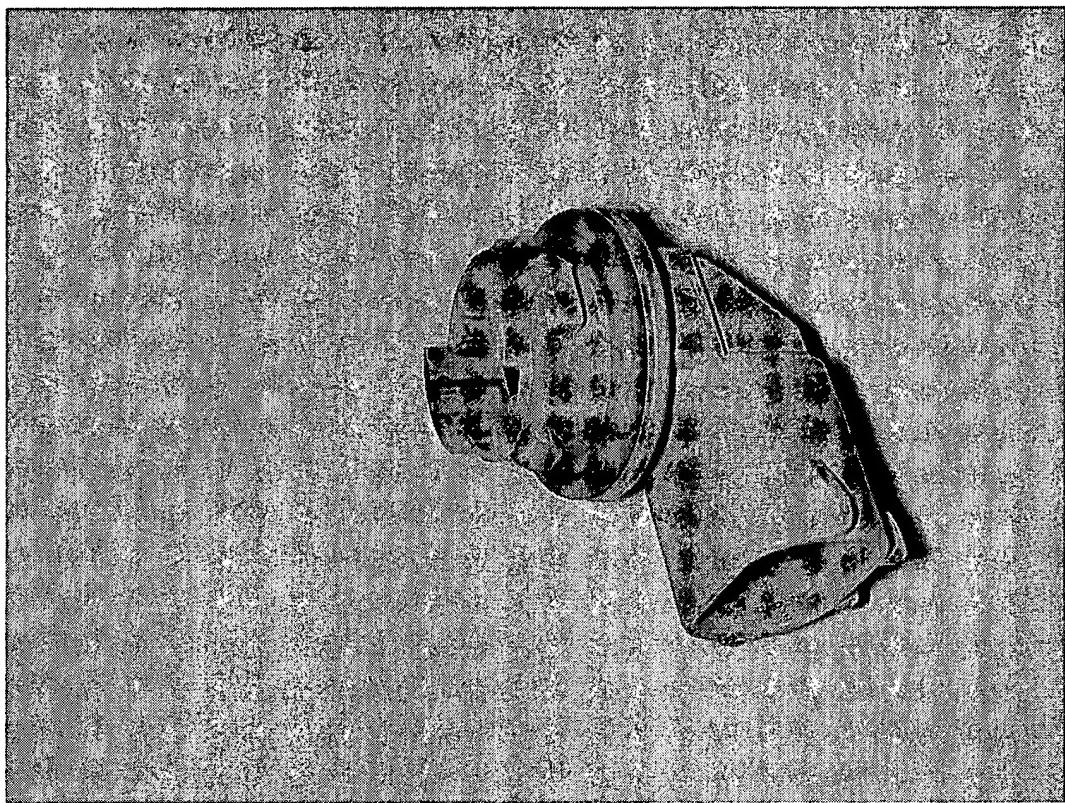


FIG. 5

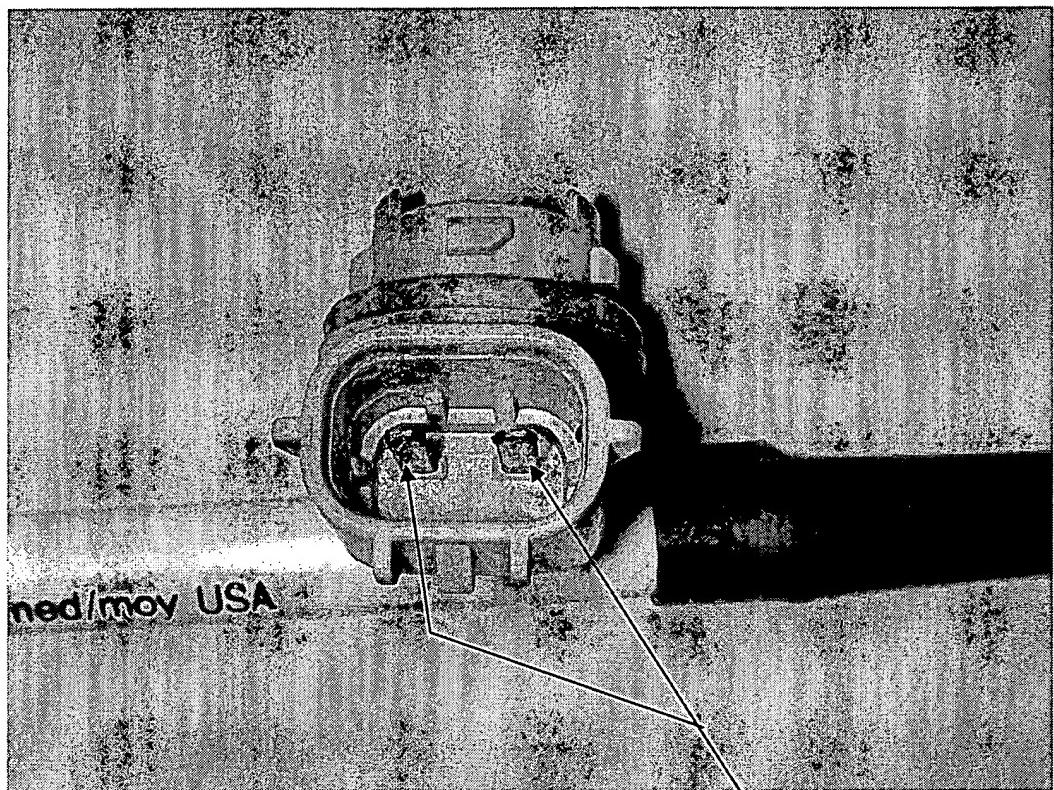


FIG. 6

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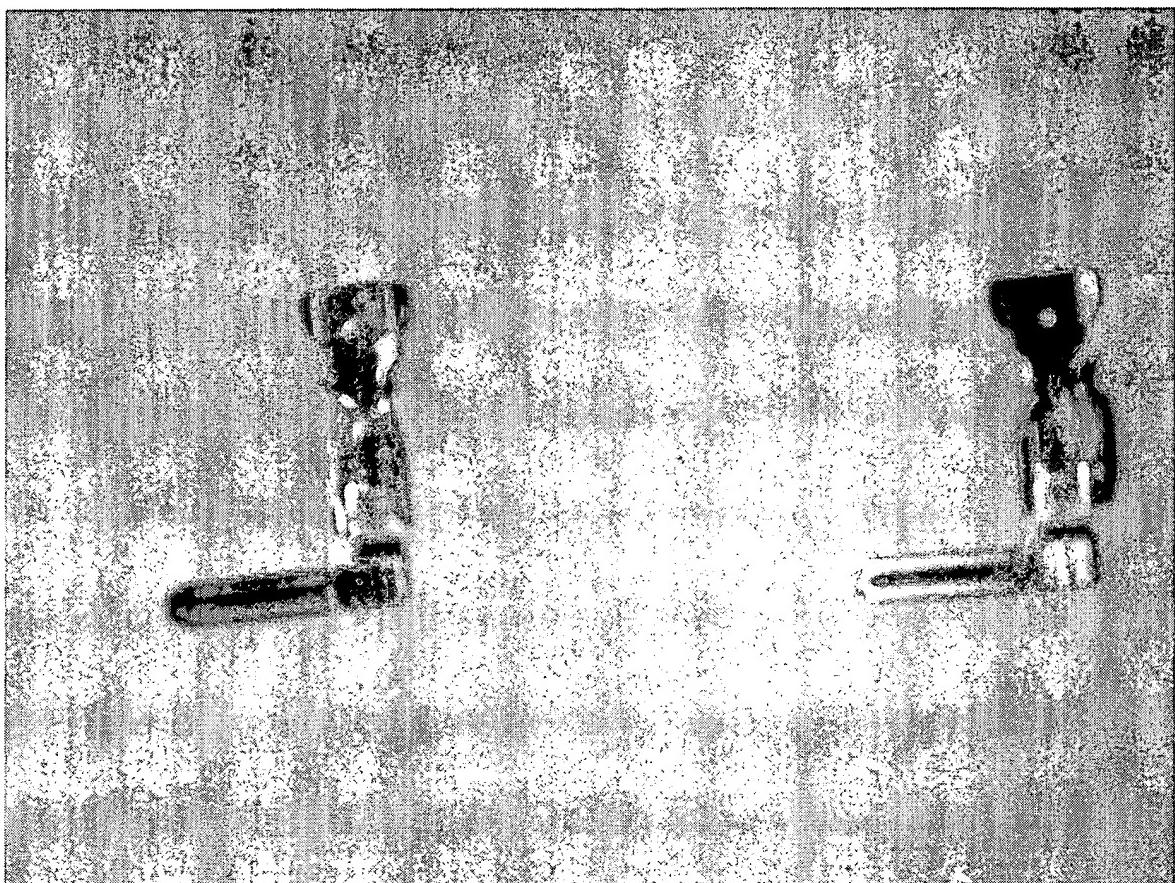


FIG. 7

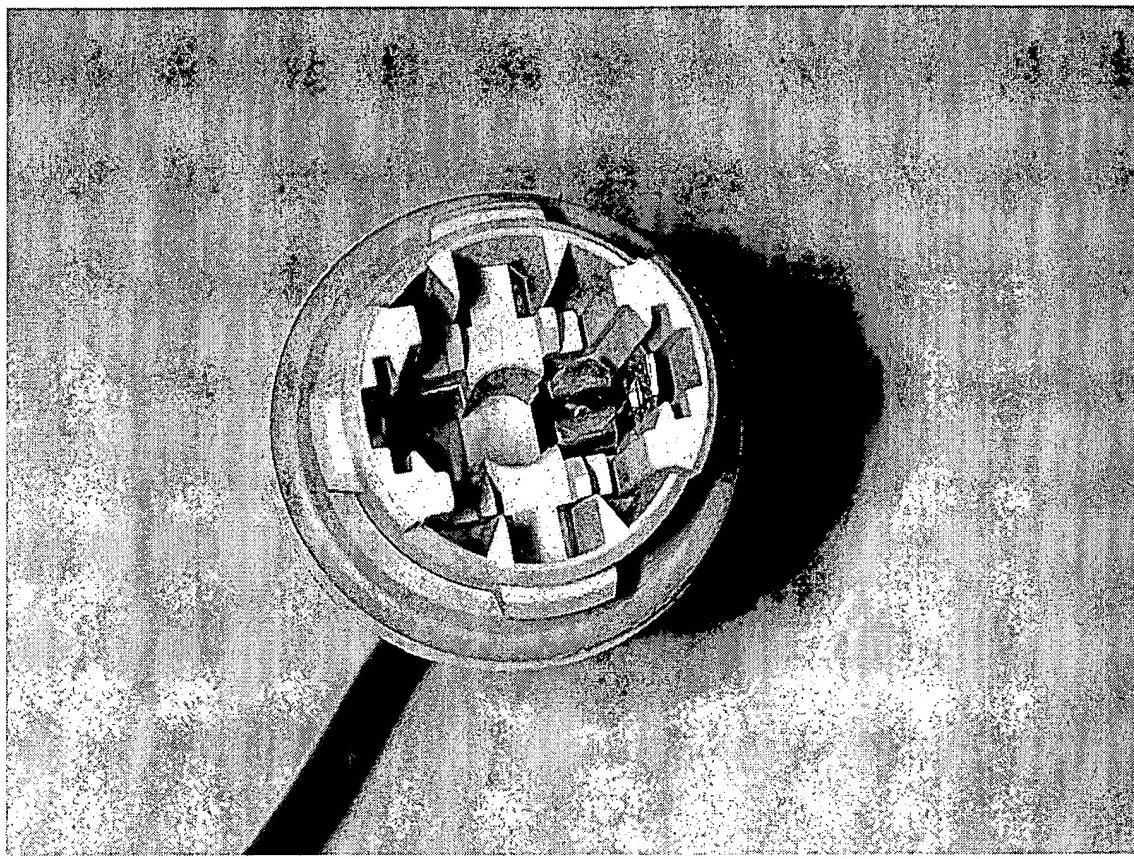


FIG. 8

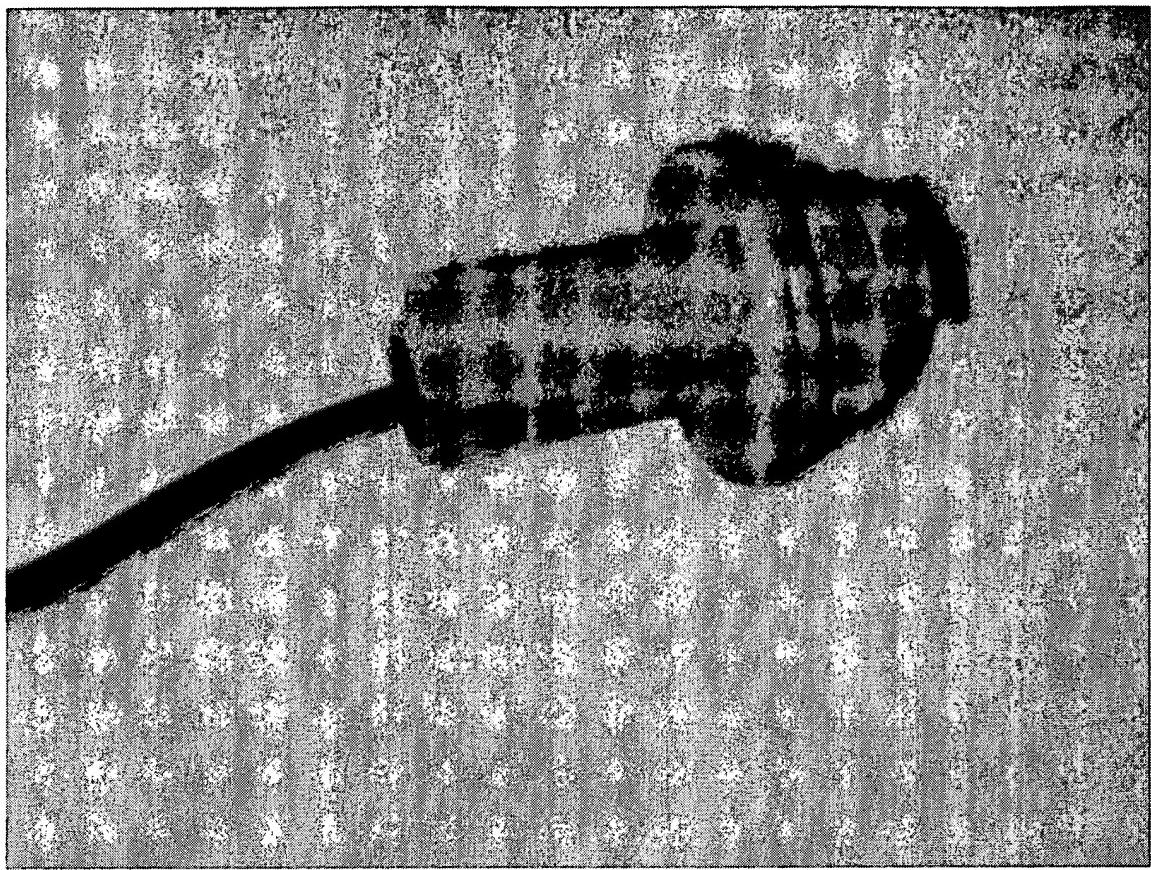


FIG. 9

EXHIBIT E

North American Lighting Lamp Socket

Figure 1 shows a top view of the bulb accepting portion of the North American Lighting lamp socket and Figure 2 shows a side view of the North American Lighting lamp socket. As shown in Figure 1, the lamp socket has alignment features.

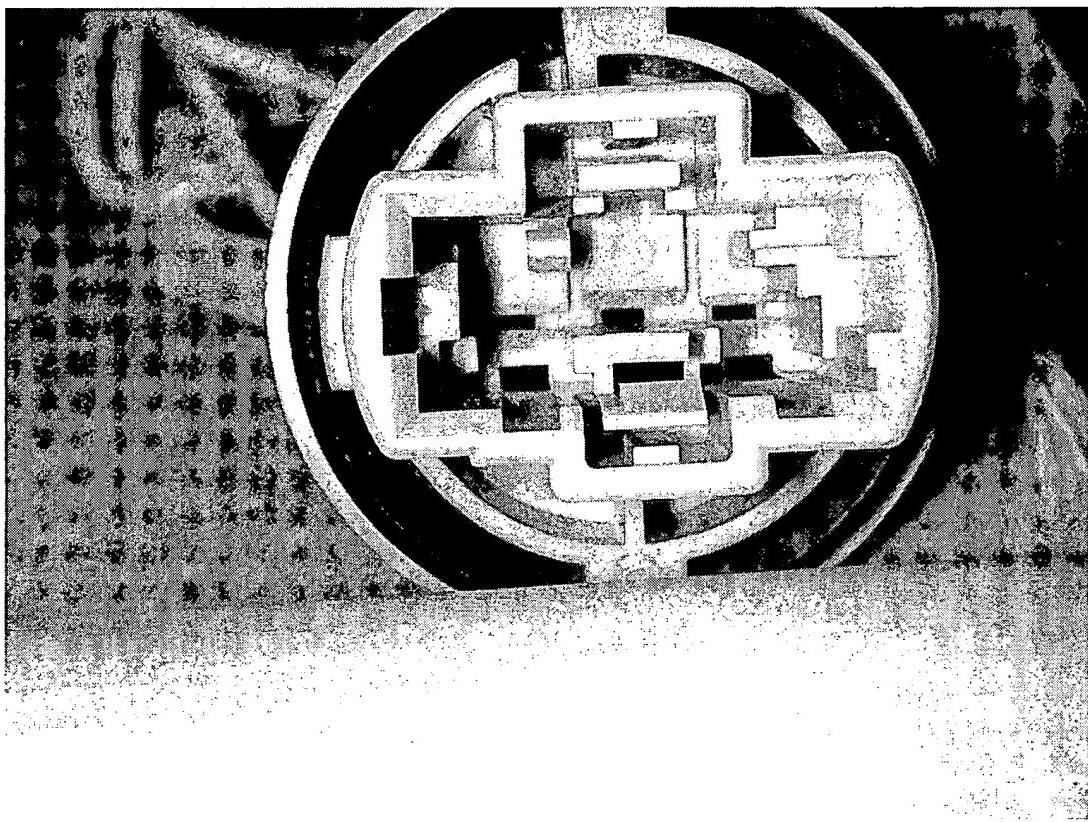


FIG. 1

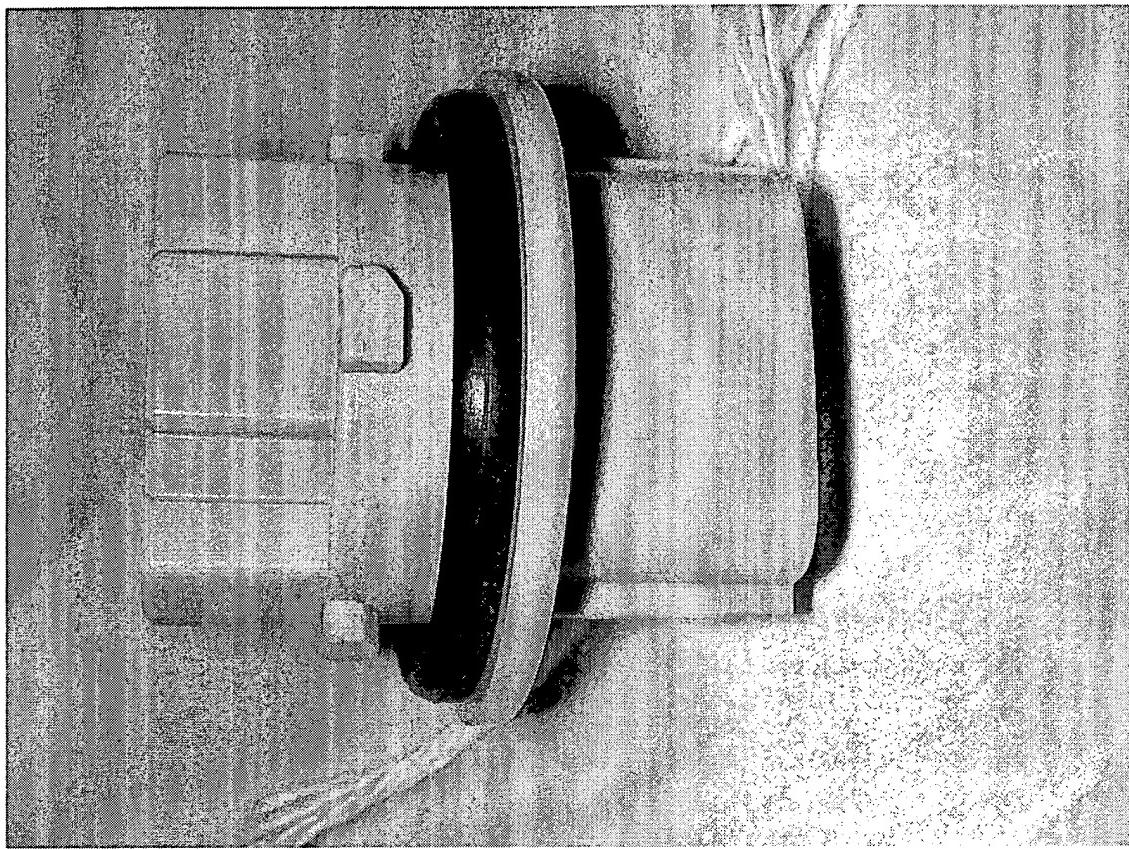


FIG. 2

EXHIBIT F

CIC Dually Axial Lamp Socket

Figure 1 shows a side view of a lamp socket manufactured by Dually. As shown in Figure 1, the lamp socket is an axial lamp socket. Figure 2 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of the axial lamp socket.

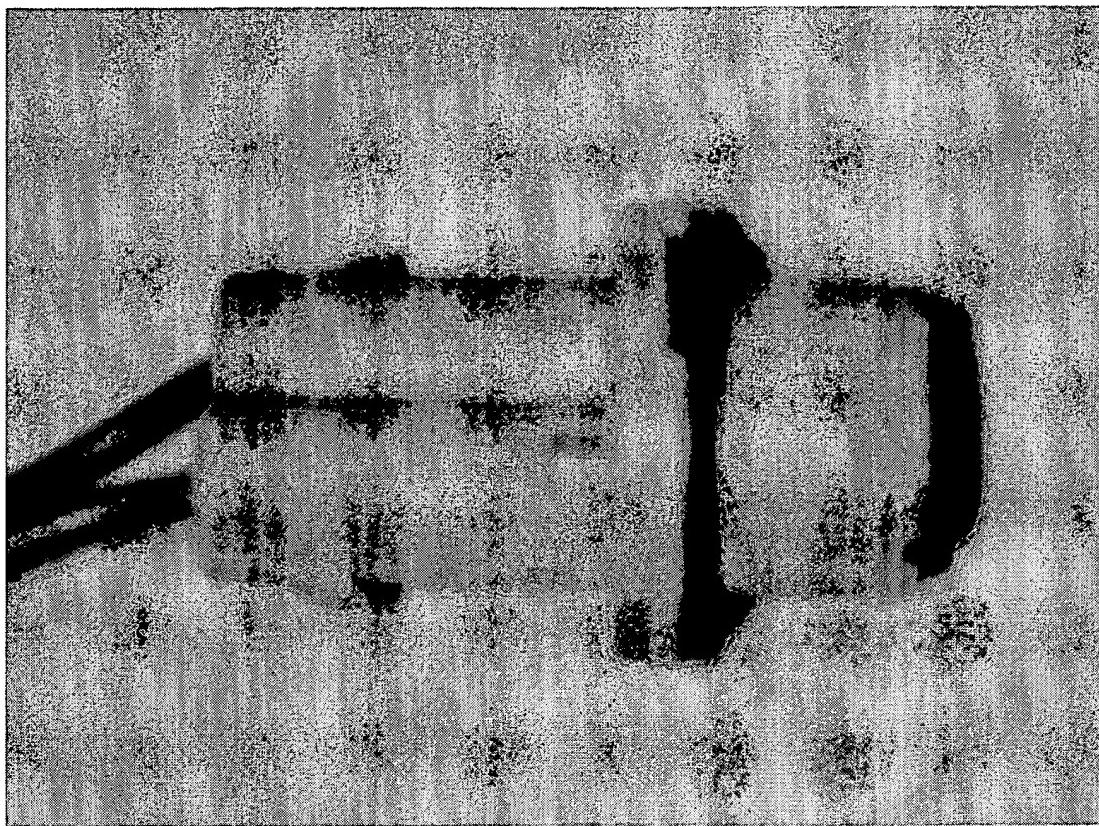


FIG. 1

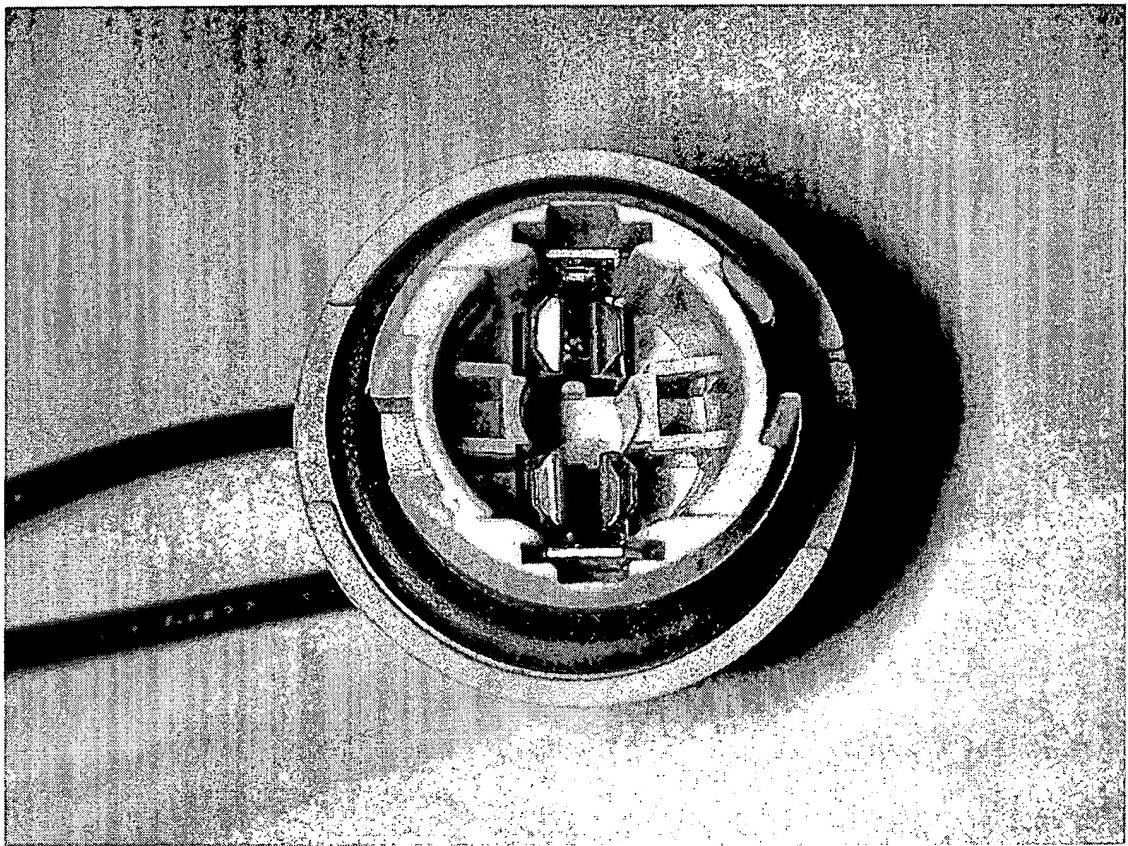


FIG 2

EXHIBIT G

Osram Sylvania Axial Lamp Socket

Figure 1 shows a side view of the Osram Sylvania lamp socket and shows that it is an axial lamp socket. Figure 2 shows a picture of the bulb accepting portion of the lamp socket. As shown in Figure 2, the Osram Sylvania lamp socket has alignment features.

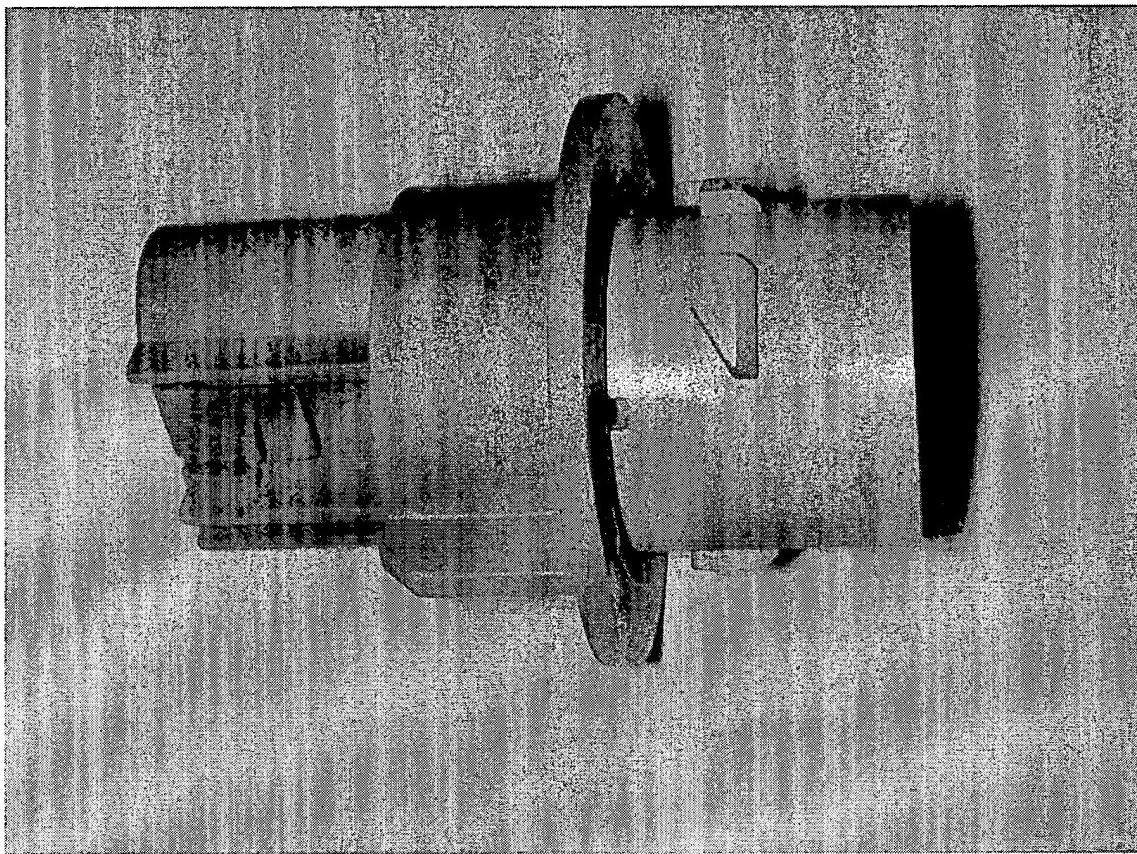


FIG. 1

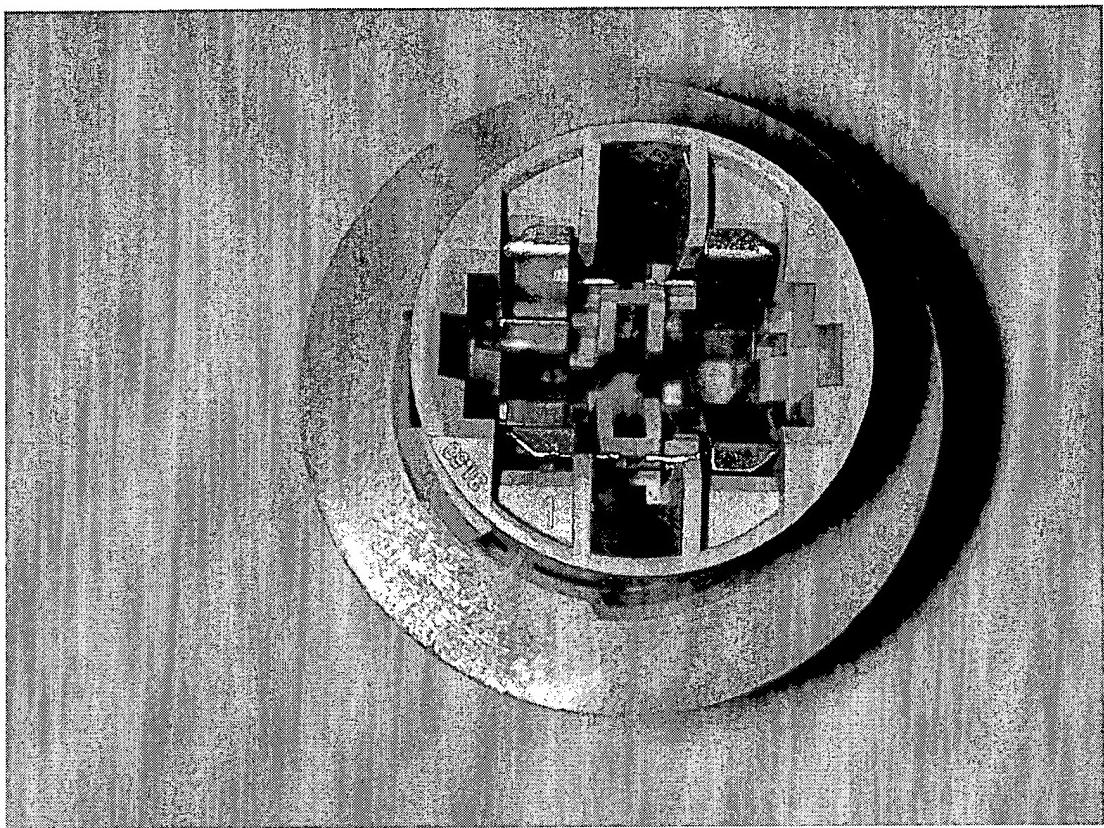


FIG. 2

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